Central Government has provided Financial Assistance for the following projects at Allahabad in Consuhation with the State Govemment:—

		Amount Sanctioned (Rs. in Lakhs)
1.	Construction of Yatri Niwas	29.42
2.	Development of Nehru Ghats	37.18
3.	Fast Food Centre at Kumbh Mela	3.18
4.	Upgradation-cum-Expansion of existing Tourist Bungalow	9.40
5.	Construction of Water Sports complex at Yamuna Bank, Arailside.	49.51

(c) and (d) The Policy of the Government continues to be to promote tourism.

Development of Tourism on Cultural Basis

†1359. SHRI ONKAR SINGH LAKHAWAT: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are formulating any plan to develop tourist centres in consonance with Indian civilisation and cultural concept for the convenience of the tourists;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the names of the places in Rajasthan which are likely to be developed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (KUMARI UM A BHARTI): (a) to (c) Development of tourist centres such as cultural, historical, pilgrim, adventure etc. is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments. However,

†'Original Notice of the Question was received in Hindi.

Ministry of Tourism provides financial assistance to the State Government every year for development of tourist infrastructure based on specific projects/schemes identified in consultation with them and as per guidelines and availability of funds.

Thirty five projects/schemes have been prioritised for Central financial assistance of Rs. 574.19 lakhs for Rajasthan for 1999-2000 in consultation with the State Govemment.

Development of Tourist Circuits

†1360. SHRI RAMJI LAL: Will the Minister of TQURISMbe pleased to state:

(a) the number of tourist circuits established so far in the country, state-wise;

(b) the steps taken and amount spent for the development of these tourist circuits by Government during the last three years;

(c) whether Government propose to develop some more national tourist circuits in the country;

(d) if so, the number of tourist circuits identified. State-wise for this purpose; and

(e) the estimated amount to be spent thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (KUMARI UMA BHARTI): (a) 19 Tourist circuits have been identified in the country in the States of Himachal Pradesh, J&K, M.P., West Bengal, Sikkim, Orissa, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Pondicherry, U.P., Rajasthan, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Bihar, Kerala, Assam and Meghalaya.

(b) Financial assistance for prioritized projects/schemes for these states including places covered in the circuits is as follows:—

	(Rs. in Lakhs)
1997-98	3132.45
1998-99	7068.72
1999-2000	12396.60-amount for prioritised projects/schemes.

(c) to (e) The States have the primary rolei in the development of I^Original notice of the question, received in Hindi.